

I CLAIM:

1. A dental chew comprising:

a body of animal hide, said body being infused with a flavor ingredient and a dental aid, said dental aid being selected to provide at least one of calculus reduction, plaque reduction, tooth whitening or gum recovery as a pet chews the body.

2. The dental chew of claim 1 wherein said dental aid is selected from the group consisting of dextranase, protease and amylase.

3. The dental chew of claim 1 wherein said dental aid is selected from the group consisting of chlorhexidine, triclosan, xylitol, fluoride and neem.

4. A pet chew comprising:

an animal hide piece having a predetermined shape and size; and a coating disposed on said animal hide piece, said coating including a flavor and a dental aid selected from the group consisting of dental aids for providing at least one of calculus reduction, plaque reduction, tooth whitening and gum recovery as a pet chews the piece.

5. A method of making a dental chew comprising the steps of:

providing a clean hide;

infusing the clean hide with an ingredient including a flavor and a dental aid selected from the group consisting of dental aids for providing at least one of calculus reduction, plaque reduction, tooth whitening and gum recovery as a pet
5 chews the piece;

cutting the hide to make hide pieces; and

drying the hide pieces to make dental chews .